

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1       1. A method for determining stability of a project, the  
2 method comprising:

3       computing at least two project progress parameters based  
4 upon project summary data of a project for numerically describing  
5 elements of the project;

6       computing regression parameters based upon the at least two  
7 project progress parameters; and

8       computing correlation coefficients utilizing the regression  
9 parameters, the correlation coefficients describing the strength  
10 of the correlation of the at least two project progress  
11 parameters for indicating the stability of the project.

1       2. The method of claim 1, wherein the project progress  
2 parameters include at least one of the following:

3       total number of branches,

4       total number of leaves,

5       number of modifications performed on the branches,

6       number of modifications performed on the leaves,

7       average age of leaves in the project, and

8       average age of branches in the project.

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1       3.     The method of claim 1, wherein the stability of the  
2 project is determined by utilizing at least one of the following  
3 equations:

4              normal equations used in regression analysis,  
5              slope of the regression model equation,  
6              intercept of the regression model equation, and  
7              correlation coefficient of the regression equation.

1       4.     The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps  
2 of:

3              collecting data of the project, the data being structured  
4 as branches and leaves; and  
5              updating at least one database with data records generated  
6 from performing statistical analysis on the collected data.

1       5.     The method of claim 4, wherein the collecting of  
2 data includes at least one of the following steps:  
3              reading data from a data file or database; or  
4              receiving data across a network.

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1           6.     The method of claim 4, wherein the branches are  
2 representative of structure components of the requirements  
3 document, and the leaves are representative of content components  
4 of the requirements document.

1           7.     The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting  
2 the data records to graphically represent the stability of the  
3 project.

1           8.     The method of claim 1, wherein the project includes  
2 at least one of the following:  
3            a requirements document,  
4            a specification document,  
5            a proposal document,  
6            a request for proposal document,  
7            a sales performance document,  
8            a manufacturing process,  
9            an accounting system,  
10          a distribution system, and  
11          a software development project.

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1       9. A method for analyzing development of a project,  
2 comprising:

3       collecting data of the project, the data structured as  
4 branches and leaves;

5       parsing the data of the project to produce first data  
6 records summarily describing the data of the project;

7       computing second data records based on the first data  
8 records, the second data records including statistical data  
9 describing the first data records; and

10      computing third data records, the third data records  
11 including statistical results based upon the second data records  
12 and being indicative of the development of the project.

1       10. The method of claim 9, wherein the collecting of  
2 data includes at least one of the following steps:

3       reading data from a data file or database; or  
4 receiving data across a network.

1       11. The method of claim 9, wherein the second and third  
2 data records are stored in a database.

1       12.     The method of claim 9, wherein the third data  
2 records are computed using regression analysis, the regression  
3 analysis being performed to facilitate daily project progress  
4 assessments and forecast the need for additional resources.

1       13.     The method of claim 9, wherein the statistical  
2 results are time dependent.

1       14.     The method of claim 9, wherein the third data  
2 records have a variable dependency.

1       15.     The method of claim 9, further comprising outputting  
2 at least one of the following: the second and third data records.

1       16.     The method of claim 9, wherein the first, second,  
2 and third data records are structured as objects.

1       17.     The method of claim 9, wherein the project is  
2 formatted on at least one of the following formats:  
3           object oriented format, and  
4           content markup language format.

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1       18.     The method of claim 9, further comprising computing  
2 correlation coefficients based upon the third data records.

1       19.     The method of claim 9, wherein the project includes  
2 at least one of the following:

3              a requirements document,  
4              a specification document,  
5              a proposal document,  
6              a request for proposal document,  
7              a sales performance document,  
8              a manufacturing process,  
9              an accounting system,  
10          a distribution system, and  
11          a software development project.

1        20.      A system for determining stability of a project,  
2                  the system comprising:  
3                  at least a first processor for executing processes;  
4                  at least a first memory device connected to the at least  
5                  first processor; and  
6                  a plurality of processes stored on the at least a first  
7                  memory device, the plurality of processes configured to cause the  
8                  at least first processor to:  
9                  compute at least two project progress parameters based upon  
10                 summary data of a project for numerically describing elements of  
11                 the project;  
12                 compute regression parameters based upon the at least two  
13                 project progress parameters; and  
14                 compute correlation coefficients utilizing the regression  
15                 parameters, the correlation coefficients describing the strength  
16                 of the correlation of the at least two project progress  
17                 parameters for indicating the stability of the project.

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1        21. The system of claim 20, wherein the project progress  
2 parameters include at least one of the following:

3              total number of branches,  
4              total number of leaves,  
5              number of modifications performed on the branches,  
6              number of modifications performed on the leaves,  
7              average age of leaves in the project, and  
8              average age of branches in the project.

1        22. The system of claim 20, wherein the stability of the  
2 project is determined by utilizing at least one of the following  
3 equations:

4              normal equations used in regression analysis,  
5              slope of the regression model equation,  
6              intercept of the regression model equation, and  
7              correlation coefficient of the regression equation.

1       23.     The system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of  
2 processes are further configured to cause the at least a first  
3 processor to:

4           collect data of the project, the data being  
5           structured as branches and leaves; and  
6           update at least one database with data records  
7           generated from performing statistical analysis on the  
8 collected data.

1       24.     The system of claim 23, wherein the at least first  
2 processor further collects data by performing at least one of the  
3 following:

4           reading data from a data file or database; or  
5           receiving data across a network.

1       25.     The system of claim 23, wherein the branches are  
2 representative of structure components of the requirements  
3 document, and the leaves are representative of content components  
4 of the requirements document.

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1        26. The system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of  
2 processes are further configured to cause the at least a first  
3 processor to:

4              output the data records to graphically represent the  
5 stability of the project.

1        27. The system of claim 20, wherein the project includes  
2 at least one of the following:  
3              a requirements document,  
4              a specification document,  
5              a proposal document,  
6              a request for proposal document,  
7              a sales performance document,  
8              a manufacturing process,  
9              an accounting system,  
10          a distribution system, and  
11          a software development project.

1        28.     A system for determining stability of a project, the  
2 system comprising:

3            means for computing at least two project progress parameters  
4 based upon project summary data of a project for numerically  
5 describing elements of the project;

6            means for computing regression parameters based upon the at  
7 least two project progress parameters; and

8            means for computing correlation coefficients utilizing the  
9 regression parameters, the correlation coefficients describing  
10 the strength of the correlation of the at least two project  
11 progress parameters for indicating the stability of the project.

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